

SIGNALS THAT FAILED.

Embarrassing Situation of a Man Who Had the Committee Habit.

"I have long since quit serving on committees," said a man from Arkansas, who is now living in New Orleans, according to the Times-Democrat, "and under no circumstances would I accept a place on any kind of a committee. I had the committee habit once, and I had a thoroughly developed case of it, too. I was living in Little Rock at the time, and no committee was complete without my name. There was on one occasion a big function at the capital, and I was placed on an important committee. The hall was jammed with spectators and guests. We had every available band in that section of the country, including the bands which had been organized in private and public institutions. One of my duties was to look after the bands, and no music could be kept going. Another member of the committee had scattered the bands around the hall, and he had placed one band up in the gallery portion of the hall. 'I wish you would signal the band in the gallery to strike up,' he said to me, and I got my way down the aisle until I got to a point where the band was placed in the gallery. I made the signal. The members of the band paid no attention to me whatever. I got excited and a bit angry, and my signaling became more violent and I went through a series of absurd arm movements and my face was burning up with embarrassment. I felt a man pulling at my coat tail, and when I turned around he said: 'Excuse me, but are you waving at that band in the gallery?' They are the biggest lot of blockheads I ever saw," I said in reply. "Excuse me," he said, softly, "that is the band from the blind asylum. I have not served on a committee since that time, and I believe I am completely cured of the committee habit."

GOODNESS OF THE BAD MAN.

A Type of the West Whose Virtues Were a Keen Eye, Quick Hand and a Stout Heart.

The bad man is not necessarily bad at all. He is often a very good fellow. Bad is merely a synonym for dangerous. The "bad" man was formerly the "good" man. He is simply the frontiersman whose evolution has kept pace with that of the firearm—product of the border and the six-shooter, says Everybody's Magazine. Keen of eye, quick of hand, and strong of will, he has that supremacy which always comes to the man of cool and clear-headed personal valor everywhere, except in society's latest and most refined development. The term was used rather to express the feeling that he was, in the vernacular of the border, "a bad man to monkey with." To govern and control communities in which violence was not infrequent, where all were restless and the majority turbulent, the ordinary forms and servants of justice were inadequate. Law and order required the assistance of officers who, though enlisted to keep the peace, did not hesitate to see a law unto themselves. If civilization was afraid to indorse their actions, it was at least proud of the results of the labors of the peace officer of the border. Hickok, Tom Smith, Patrick Shugrue, Michael Shugrue, William Tilghmann, Hector Thomas, and a score of other men as marshals, sheriffs and deputies enforced the law, made life safe and property secure, and brought order out of chaos by their ready courage and good sense. As Wild Bill Hickok was the original, so was he the first of the class.

HOW TO ENTER POLITICS.

A Small Budget of Sage Advice from a Kansas Editor to Aspiring Statesmen.

If you want to be a politician, the first thing to do is to get into the push, or at least create the impression that you are in, advises the Topeka Mail and Breeze. When there is a convention, if you can't work in as a delegate, you can at least get into the crowd in the hotel lobby, and if you carry yourself in shape you can make the stranger who is within the gates of the city believe you are not only a delegate, but one of the steering committee. Keep busy. Take at least eight or ten men off to one side in the course of the evening for private conversation.

There is quite a good deal in making people believe you are cutting a good many lemons, whether you are or not. It is a good idea to be seen off in a corner talking with some prominent candidate. You can arrange this if you have the proper amount of gall. You may not have anything to tell him, but then you will be seen in consultation, and you will make some parties who don't know you very well think that there must be a hen on. But, above all else, cultivate your gall. If you can get some reporter to interview you on the political situation, that will be a good scheme. The newspapers can make a reputation for almost any sort of a man.

One Explanation.

The shy damsel whom the unsuspicious youth had taken to the restaurant had ordered everything on the menu except bread and butter, when she turned to the young man and said:

"Do you know, I am not one bit hungry."

The poor man felt the dollar and thirty cents in his vest pocket, laughed feebly and inquired:

"Are you—do you—that is, are you doing this on a bet?"—Baltimore American.

WASPS, THE INVINCIBLES.

Where These Terrible Insects Swarm It Is Impossible to Resist Them.

From early ages to the present time the "fiery darts of the wasps" have furnished illustrations of invincible attack. In the Bible the Lord uses the hornet to help clear a way for the chosen people: "And I sent the hornet before you, which drove them out from before you, even the two kings of the Amorites." Not only have armies been dispersed, but cities have been abandoned because of the onset of hornets. In "Wasps and Their Ways" many interesting examples are cited.

In "Cruden's Concordance," in the introduction to the subject of hornets, we read that a "Christian city, being besieged by Sapor, king of Persia, was delivered by hornets; for the elephants and beasts, being stung by them, waxed unruly, and so the whole army fled."

Moffet says: "If we will credit Aelianus, the Phasities, in times past, were constrained to forsake their city, for all their defense, munition and armor, all through the multitude and cruel fierceness of the wasps where with they were annoyed."

A more modern incident is this: "Eight miles from Grandjeu the muleteers suddenly called out: 'Marambunda! Marambunda!' which indicated the approach of wasps. In a moment all the animals, whether loaded or otherwise, lay down on their backs, kicking violently, while the blacks and others ran in different directions, all being careful to avoid by a wide sweep the swarms of tormentors that came forward like a cloud."

"I never witnessed a panic so sudden and complete. The alarm was not without good reason, for so severe is the torture inflicted by these pesty assailants that the bravest travelers are not ashamed to fly the instant they perceive the host approaching, which is of common occurrence in the campos."

THAT WHICH IS QUOTED.

Of All Languages Latin Has Been the Most Cited, Says This Authority.

Quotation is a matter of memory, and when literature relied on memory literature mainly consisted of verse. It seems pretty clear that fixed rhythm was at least as much a practical expedient as an artistic device. And the poets most quotable and most quoted are those whose words have the most direct bearing on the common business of life, says a writer in the Saturday Review. The old theory of the poet's function was very different from the modern one. Now, he is taken to be a creature singing to himself, following out his own dreams, remote, in a sense that Horace or Horace's Greek models never contemplated, from common life. He does, in reality, hate the profane vulgar; he shuts it off by a barrier of unintelligibility which the crowd shows no desire to break down. But the poet was formerly held to be one different indeed from his fellows, endowed with a special insight, but speaking to men of men's affairs in words that they could catch up and apply to many passages in life—that is, in words that naturally lent themselves to quotation. Too great insistence upon either aspect of the case naturally leads to error. Of all literatures Latin has been incomparably the most cited, partly because Latin is still familiar to every educated man, but largely also because of the practical bent of Latin genius. Horace is more quoted not only than Virgil but than any poet in the world, yet no one assigns to him a rank corresponding to this fact. The weakness of Horace lies just in the universal applicability of his sentiments; his counsels are so far-reaching, in their wisdom that they approach platitudes. As Mr. Austin Dobson puts it:

No man can say that life is short
With men so little fretful.
And none to virtue's ways exhort
In phrases less regretful.

College Graduates Increasing.

The graduating lists of the American colleges this year show an increase of 25 per cent. It seems probable that all the institutions of learning will have more than their usual quota of students next fall, says Success. As celebrated college presidents have shown in the columns of Success from time to time, the demand for college men in all branches of business, as well as in the professions, is gradually increasing. Our colleges graduate men and women with practical as well as artistic ideals. A notion prevails that girls who have been so fortunate as to complete a course in a college do not make good wives. This notion is devoid of common sense. The more brain a man or woman can put into his or her work the better that work will be. This rule holds as surely in the responsible work of housekeeping, in social relations and in domestic economy as in agriculture, the arts, mechanism, law, medicine or theology.

Ruined His Opportunity.

"Yes, there is no doubt he stole the boss. But just as we was going to string him up he said something 'bout playin' th' concertina for th' last time. Well, th' boys all liked music an' there wuz a concertina in Ike Hunken's cabin that had belonged to a tenderfoot that passed in his checks a dozen year ago. The boys fetched it out an' Bill Stump told th' feller that if he'd play 'Rock o' Ages' clean through we'd let him go. No we all 'at round an' the feller started in."

"Did he play it?"

"Played it clean through. But we hung him jest th' same."

"How was that?"

"Th' dern kiyote played it in rag time!"—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Pigeon Valet to a Crow.

"Tom" was the name given to a lordly young crow. Beauty was a snow white pigeon of about the crow's age, with whom he was reared. Just how it came about we never knew, but we soon discovered that Beauty regularly acted as maid-of-all-work to Tom. She fetched and carried morsels of food at his imperious command, and one of her unvarying duties was the preening of her master's feathers. Tom was very much of a dandy; his coal black plumage always appeared perfectly dressed and shining, but the arduous labor of his toilet was performed for him twice every day by the humble and affectionate pigeon. Our due gentleman would come in from a roll in the dust or a dip in the fountain, and, seating himself upon a certain railing, utter a short, sharp call. Instantly Beauty would descend to his side and begin her task, fluttering anxiously from side to side as she worked, drawing each shining black feather carefully out to its full length in her pink bill. Tom, meanwhile, dozing luxuriously with closed eyes, after the manner of the complacent patron of a skilled barber. If Beauty unfortunately pulled a feather too hard a squawk and a sudden peck informed her of her mistake. Ladies' Home Journal.

Stereoscopic Study of the Moon.

It has been observed that on account of the absence of an atmosphere on the moon and the consequent lack of gradation in shadows, the eye of the observer is seriously misled in judging the actual relief of objects forming the lunar landscape. Prof. Prinz of Brussels, has recently developed a method of avoiding this difficulty, and of seeing the craters and other details on the moon in their natural proportions. Taking advantage of the fact that as the moon travels around the earth the eccentricity of its orbit produces the effect of a slow rotation, or balancing to and fro, which causes its face to be inclined now a little one way and now a little the other way. Prof. Prinz makes two photographs of the lunar object to be studied, at opposite points in the libration, and then combines them in a stereoscope, whereupon the object stands forth in full relief. This principle has hitherto been applied only to photographs of the moon as a whole, and not to particular craters or regions.—Science.

The Animals of India.

It is said that the fauna of India has not lost a single species of mammal, bird or reptile, not merely during the nineteenth century, but within the period of definite history. There is one animal the extermination of which, if not imminent, is not improbable, namely, the Indian rhinoceros. The tiger, which destroyed 900 human lives in the latest reported year, has a prospect of survival which the most pessimistic prophet cannot dim with predictions of destruction. Except for exhibition purposes, the tiger does not seem a desirable contemporary; the rhinoceros is still more picturesque and greatly less harmful.—Nature.

Advice to Travelers About Money.

On all steamers American money is accepted, but every passenger should have enough of the coin of the country to which the steamship line belongs to meet all bills outside of mere passage money, as these bills are made out in francs, marks or shillings, according to the official medium of the line. The convenience also of having some of the current coin of the country to be first visited is appreciated in the ability to board a train on landing without the delay of bank exchange. Experienced travelers reserve United States currency for a like reason.—Helen E. Gavitt, in Woman's Home Companion.

The Tailor Bird of India.

Most curious are the sewing or tailor birds of India—little yellow things not much larger than one's thumb. To escape falling a prey to snakes and monkeys the tailor bird picks up a dead leaf and flies up into a high tree, and with a fiber for a thread and its bill for a needle sews the leaf on a green one hanging from the tree; the sides are sewed up, an opening being left at the top. That a nest is swinging in the tree no snake or monkey or even a man would suspect.—Nature.

Real Excitement.

"Don't you sometimes feel like going to a theater or a ball game?"

"Never," answered Mr. Meekton.

"But don't you sometimes long for excitement?"

"Of course. That's only natural. When I do, I go with Henrietta to a department store or else stay home and watch her clean house."—Washington Star.

A Delicate Implement.

To illustrate the absolute and delicate control of electric cranes the manager of a large iron works at Ipswich, England, during a recent engineering meeting stated that his cranes of 25-ton capacity "could be started and stopped many times in an inch."—Engineering Journal.

The Difficult.

Manager—I am sorry that you wish to resign. What is the trouble?

Star—It is too much of a strain on me to try to live up to the salary your press agent says I get.—Chicago Daily News.

Reasonable.

Mrs. Jones—They say bachelors should be taxed; but I don't think they are always to blame.

Dr. Jones—Certainly not! No man is always to blame until he gets married!—Puck.

Diplomacy.

Diplomacy never kicks at the cur that barks at its heels. — Chicago Daily News.

Plague of the Prickly Pear.

One of the most serious difficulties in the way of land settlement in some parts of Australia is said to be an obnoxious plant called the prickly pear. As a pest to the farmers it may be fairly classed with the rabbits. It has taken possession of whole tracts of country and the settler has to fight a pitched battle for every acre he calls his own. A single fruit brings forth 30, 60, and even several hundred fold of good, productive seed. All herbage may droop, die, and disappear in the oven of an Australian drought, but the pear survives, flourishes, and carries on its processes of expansion and reproduction with unconcern. In the fierce "struggle for life" when a drought is devastating the land this pest is a living example of the survival of the "unfittest." It was brought to Australia, like the rabbit, either for use or ornament, and it became a plague and a pestilence. Its extermination in the colony of Queensland, at least, is a question of national importance.—Los Angeles Herald.

Boxers as Bill Stickers.

The boxers are still causing considerable anxiety in some parts of China. Pictorial boxer placards are being sold at many of the markets. One is a sheet 14 by 24 inches in size, portraying, in red, yellow and green, the conquests of the boxers over the foreigners. It is entitled "The Rampage of the Five Foreign (Boxers) in China." The central figure is a foreign house of impossible architecture, which is being set on fire by flames from the finger tips of young girls labeled "Bright Red Lanterns." On the other side of the doomed structure is a snake or dragon called "Fire God." Below is the "Golden Bell," under which the boxers are crawling to secure invisibility, and at the bottom five unfortunate foreigners are being done to death with pike and sword. This sort of thing has often a most unfortunate effect upon the average uneducated Chinaman.—Westminster Gazette.

Frontier Justice.

A young Arizona lawyer who recently visited Detroit gave the following as an example of the style of justice that prevails in some remote sections of the frontier:

A certain justice of the peace whose knowledge of the law was never gained from books or actual practice before the bar was hearing an assault and battery case. The lawyer for the defense was shouting his arguments at the court said:

"That will do. Sit down."

He then adjusted his spectacles and sagely observed:

"Prisoner, stand up! Accordin' tah th' law an' th' evidence—an' there is no evidence—Oh foind yez guilty, sor, an' foine yz \$50. If yez ar guilty, faith, it's a very light sinitine; an' if yez ar not guilty it'll be a mighty good lesson for yez."—Detroit Free Press.

Perfectly Willing to Apologize.

"Angelina," said the youth, hotly, as he entered the drawing-room, "it remains for you to say whether our mutual friendship shall continue or be ended here at once."

"What is the matter?" asked the beautiful girl, opening her lovely orbs to their widest extent.

"Your father has just called me a stupid young idiot."

"And you want me to apologize for him?"

"I do."

"Then I cheerfully do it. Father is altogether too frank, and I have often told him that even the truth shouldn't always be spoken."—Stray Stories.

Many Bachelor Bishops.

The new bishop of London is by no means the first bachelor occupant of the see. For 150 years after the reformation settlement of Elizabeth it was the exception for the bishop of London to be a married man. Bishop Sandys (1570-1577), afterward archbishop of York, was the first married bishop of London, and there have been many married bishops since. At the present time three out of four of the canons of St. Paul's and four out of five of the canons of Westminster are bachelors.—Chicago Record-Herald.

Ropes Jack Tar Cannot Split.

In the old days nearly all of a yacht's rigging was hemp, but in our modern racing craft very little hemp rope is used. Not only the standing rigging, but a great part of the running, is steel wire rope. Only the ropes that have to be pulled on with hands like sheets—ropes that trim the sails—are made of hemp. This is because steel is not only stronger, but it does not stretch like cord made of fiber.—Home Magazine.

The Great Requisite.

Towne—Yes, Prof. Krayneum is going in for politics. Why shouldn't he be successful? He speaks seven languages fluently, while the average politician to-day—

Browne—Succeeds because he is able to keep his mouth shut in one language.—Philadelphia Press.

As a Substitute.

Hungry Higgins—Please, ma'am, could you give a poor fellow a trifle to-day?

Kind Lady—I'm very sorry, but I'm all out of trifles. But I can give you a hunk of corn bread and bacon.—Chicago Daily News.

The Old, Old Story.

Jack—I saw a deaf-mute man talking in his fingers to a deaf-mute girl to-day.

Kitty—What was he saying?

"I love you more than words can utter."—Detroit Free Press.

Doubts the Theory.

Boots—Do you think horseshoes are lucky?

Dobbs—If they are, then the horse I bet on yesterday was running barefooted.—Baltimore American.

CAPITOL COMMENT

The Register's Correspondent Writes a

Letter on Matters of Current Interest at the National Capitol

INTERNAL REVENUE KEEP UP

Change in War Tax Does not Affect Receipts

Iowa in Earnest About Governor Shaw as Presidential Candidate

(From our Regular Correspondent.)

Washington, July 15, 1901.—Secretary Gage and other Treasury officials have been surprised by the receipt from internal revenue for the first half of this month. It was naturally expected that the reductions which went into effect the first of the month would make the receipts considerably smaller than for the corresponding period last year, but instead of that, they have been a little larger every day and for the half month in round figures, \$1,000,000 greater than for the first half of July last year. Some think that this may be accounted for by the fact that changes were made in a number of classes of revenue stamps, and that large users allowed their supply to entirely run out by the first of the month, and have, consequently, purchased large quantities since then. Whatever the cause, the receipts have been larger when they were expected to be smaller.

Secretary Hitchcock takes no stock in the numerous stories of the intended crooked use of the names of soldiers and sailors by land speculators in entering claims for homesteads in the Oklahoma Indian Reservation. He is confident that the regulations will make it impossible for such crookedness to be carried on to a sufficient extent to make it pay, and his advice from Oklahoma indicate that the stories are largely imaginary.

Representative Hepburn, who is in Washington on business, says that Senator Allison was in dead earnest when he stated that Presidential boom for Governor Shaw, of Iowa; that the Republicans of Iowa are solidly behind Governor Shaw and will present his name to the National Convention, although they fully recognize the handicap that the big and certain Republican majority always given by the state will be to him, owing to the natural tendency of conventions to give greater consideration to close and doubtful states in choosing a candidate.

It was highly complimentary to Consul General Stowe, who recently tendered his resignation because of his inability to live at Cape Town, South Africa, on the salary of the office, \$3,000—for the large merchants of that city to unite in a petition to the Department of State, asking that Mr. Stowe's resignation be not accepted, and pledging themselves to pay him enough, in addition to his official salary, to enable him to live as he should, but Secretary Hay promptly informed the signers of the petition that this government could not allow a consular officer to be paid from private sources. Congress fixes the consular salaries. It may be remarked in this connection that the German Consul General at Cape Town receives \$10,000 a year more salary than Mr. Stowe, for precisely the same class of work.

Representative Cannon, of Ill., who is hustling in Washington for his constituents, says he hasn't made up his mind whether to become the fourth candidate for the Senate in his state. Senator Mason, Comptroller Dawes and Mr. R. R. Madden, are already in the field. Asked what he thought of the Presidential outlook, Mr. Cannon said: "It is too early to talk with any certainty. The only thing that seems to be certain is that it will be an old-fashioned sort of convention, with the result uncertain until after the delegates have assembled and some ballots have been taken. No man, at present, appears to be a popular idol, and I do not think anything is likely to occur which will give any one person a commanding position in the race. There are any number of men willing to say 'Here I am, Oh Lord, take me,' but which of them will be chosen I shall not undertake to predict." Mr. Cannon disposed of the cock and bull story alleging the existence of a conspiracy among Republican members of the House, to prevent the re-election of Speaker Henderson, by saying, "All such talk is absolute rot."

2nd take Washington letter.

The appointment of Mr. A. B. Kittredge by the Governor of South Dakota to fill the vacancy made by the

death of Senator Kyle, has been well received in Washington. Although Mr. Kittredge is only 40 years old, he has been regarded for some years as the leader of the Republican party in South Dakota, and is known to have been largely instrumental in restoring his state to the Republican column.

Consul General Mason, at Berlin, in a report to the Department of State called attention to the tricks of German custom officials to injure American trade in Germany, especially that in manufactured articles. He cites two instances, in which a change of tariff classification has resulted in a practical prohibition of the importation of two American articles—a snap book, which had been imported for years under a duty of \$2.38 per kilogram, which was reclassified and put at \$5.71, more than double; and ice cream freezers, which were changed from \$2.38 per 100 kilograms to \$7.14. He advises American manufacturers to ascertain by actual shipments how articles are to be classified before contracting to deliver large quantities in Germany.

Mr. John C. Freely, of Scranton, Pa., who has just returned from a semi-business tour of Great Britain, said, while in Washington: "The sale of American Agricultural implements is increasing every day in Europe. The people who do the buying over there are as sensible as any other people on earth. They don't buy our plows and hay rakes and steel rails just because they are American, but because they are really the best in the world and far cheaper in the long run than the best articles made elsewhere."

GOOD RAINS IN KANSAS

Local Showers Reported all Over the State

Topeka, Kansas, July 17.—The rains that have fallen in Kansas last night and today have practically assured a corn yield of at least 50,000,000 bushels, and the yield may even be greater. The State is under the influence of a low barometric condition and more rain is expected tonight. Correspondents from numerous Kansas towns in rains say that the sky is overcast with clouds tonight and that more rains within a few hours is certain.

The dry spell in Kansas has been ended and with it has gone the excessive heat. It is the opinion among those who have been watching the weather conditions that the season will be more favorable to crops from now on.

Good rains are reported tonight over portions of eastern and central Kansas, and in each case is mentioned the fact that the rain is not through with yet. Emporia, Hiawatha, Clay Center, Ellsworth, Salina, Atchison, Sylvan Grove, Great Bend, Concordia, Quenemo, Ottawa, Fredonia and Osage City are among the places favored with rains, which ranged from one-half to two inches.

The manner in which corn has held its own during the drought was something remarkable and is a source of wonder to the farmers. In some places it has had no moisture for over two months. It has made almost no growth, but the leaves have been kept green and the tassels kept off. Weeds could not flourish in the dry spell any more than corn, and they were easily eradicated. The fields are therefore clean and have taken a new lease on life since the rain. With a large wheat crop and the present fair prospects for corn, drought suffering will be reduced to a minimum.

ARE OFF FOR THE POLE

Baldwin-Ziegler Expedition Starts From Tromsø, Norway.

Tromsø, Norway, July 17.—Shortly before midnight last night the ships of the Baldwin-Ziegler expedition weighed anchor, and with the stars and stripes and Norwegian flags at their masts steamed off to the north. As they left the harbor the crews of the other vessels there gave the expedition a parting cheer.

Evelyn B. Baldwin, chief of the expedition, was in excellent spirits. His last words to a representative of the Associated Press were that he had little doubt of reaching the North pole.

The America will proceed first to Archangel, in Russia, for dogs and horses, and then return to the island of Vardoe, off the coast of Norway, whence the final departure for Franz Josef Land will be made. Touching at Houningsvaag, the America and the Belgica will pick up the Firthjof, and all three vessels will proceed northward together.

THE NEELY TRIAL

Will Begin in August—Rathbone's Will Follow.

By Scripps-McIntee Press Association.

Washington, July 17.—The Havana News says that the trial of Chas. Neely charged with misappropriation of postal funds begins the first of August. Rathbone's trial will follow. Neely has been in jail at Havana since January. Rathbone is out on bail but not allowed to leave Cuba.